

Message Text

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41

ORIGIN XMB-04

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DRAFTED BY: XMB: D.R. AMBACH

APPROVED BY: NEA:SSOBER-XV

XMB:WJ CASEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

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FOR AMBASSADOR TOON FROM CHAIRMAN CASEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, OTRA, IS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF EXIMBANK CHAIRMAN

1. IF TIMING IS CONVENIENT FOR YOU, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE BRIEF VISIT TO ISRAEL IN EARLY DECEMBER. MY PURPOSE, IN ADDITION TO RESPONDING TO INVITATIONS FROM VARIOUS GOI OFFICIALS WHO HAVE VISITED EXIMBANK RECENTLY, IS TO REVIEW OVERALL EXIMBANK PROGRAM IN ISRAEL AND CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE ECONOMIC SITUATION, AND TO BUILD ON RECENT VISIT BY BANK OFFICIALS. IN THIS CONNECTION I WOULD HOPE TO SEE THE LEUMI AND HAPOALIM BANKS (ESPECIALLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE HADERA POWER PROJECT) AND THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK (IN CONNECTION WITH THE REFINERY EXPANSION).

I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH THE FINANCE MINISTER.

2. BEST SCHEDULE FOR ME WOULD BE TO ARRIVE TEL AVIV NOVEMBER 30 AT 18:05. MONDAY AND PART OF TUESDAY WOULD BE OPEN FOR APPOINTMENTS, AND I WOULD PLAN TO LEAVE FOR PARIS AT 14:25 ON DECEMBER 2.

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3. I REGRET THAT VISIT MUST BE SO SHORT BUT HOPE YOU WILL LET ME HAVE YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON WAYS IN WHICH LIMITED TIME COULD BE PUT TO BEST ADVANTAGE. KISSINGET

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